

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re the Application of

Makoto YOSHIDA, Taro OIKE, Noboru YAMANAKA

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: December 27, 2001

Docket No.: 111580

For: THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD, MAGNETIC HEAD DEVICE AND MAGNETIC
DISK DRIVING DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 15 as follows:

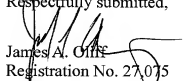
15. (Amended) A magnetic head device comprising a thin film magnetic head as
defined in claim 1 and a head supporting apparatus to support the thin film magnetic head.

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 16 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 15 is
amended to remove multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits
is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R.
1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Clift
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/mlb
Attached: Appendix
Date: December 27, 2001

CLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--

10026877-122701

APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claim:

15. (Amended) A magnetic head device comprising a thin film magnetic head as defined in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-14~~ and a head supporting apparatus to support the thin film magnetic head.